

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0958

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 9682

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA KS KN

SUBJECT: KOREA IN THE 30TH UNGA: NEXT STEPS

REF: A) STATE 241543; B) STATE 259571; C) MEXICO 9431;
D) STATE 259659

1. DESPITE HARD LOBBYING BY MYSELF AND MY STAFF ON THIS ISSUE OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS (ACCOMPANIED UNDOUBTEDLY BY SIMILAR EFFORTS OF USUN VIS-A-VIS MEXICAN DELEGATION), AND DESPITE SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PERSONAL MESSAGE TO FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA, WE ACHIEVED ONLY MIXED RESULTS IN THE FIRST COMMITTEE VOTE DISCUSSED REFTELS B AND D. WE LOBBIED FOR OPTIMUM RESULTS, I.E., FOR A NEGATIVE MEXICAN VOTE ON PROPOSAL TO GIVE HOSTILE RESOLUTION PRIORITY, AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ON FRIENDLY AND NEGATIVE VOTE ON HOSTILE RESOLUTION. THIS WAS SOMEWHAT MORE THAN REALISTIC OBJECTIVES CITED IN REFTEL A, I.E., MEXICAN ABSTENTION ON PRIORITY ISSUE, ABSTENTION ON FRIENDLY AND NEGATIVE ON HOSTILE RESOLUTION. IN PERFORMANCE, MEXICANS WENT ALONG WITH US AND VOTED AGAINST PRIORITY FOR HOSTILE RESOLUTION AND ABSTAINED ON FRIENDLY RESOLUTION; UNFORTUNATELY, THEY ALSO ABSTAINED ON HOSTILE RESOLUTION. MEXICAN RESPONSE TO OUR LOBBYING, THEREFORE, WHILE NOT THE BEST WE COULD HAVE HOPED FOR WAS POSITIVE TO A DEGREE. MOREOVER,
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MEXICAN OFFICIAL DID EXPRESS UNDERSTANDING OF STATUS OF

US TROOPS IN KOREA UNDER BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT.

2. I FEEL SURE THAT RABASA GAVE CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT TO THE SECRETARY'S PERSONAL APPEAL; THE FACT THAT MEXICO DID NOT, HOWEVER, VOTE AGAINST THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION, COULD MEAN THAT IN THIS AS IN OTHER RECENT CASES, ECHEVERRIA HIMSELF MADE THE FINAL DETERMINATION WITHOUT MUCH REGARD FOR FOREIGN SECRETARIAT VIEWS.

3. IN LIGHT OF REFTTEL D, WE WILL STAND BY FOR FURTHER GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS ISSUE. IN ANY EVENT, RABASA IS IN SOUTHERN MEXICO AT PRESENT, ARRANGING MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA AND PRESIDENT LAUGERUD OF GUATEMALA FOR NOVEMBER 13, AND I HAVE THUS BEEN UNABLE TO TALK WITH HIM. UPON RECEIPT OF FURTHER GUIDANCE, WE WILL OF COURSE AGAIN DISCUSS KOREA WITH FOREIGN SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS, IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE MEXICAN POSITION OR, AT LEAST, TO PREVENT SLIPPAGE (GIVEN ECHEVERRIA'S ERRATIC BEHAVIOR ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES IN RECENT WEEKS, EVEN THIS CANNOT BE RULED OUT). I DO NOT EXCLUDE DISCUSSING MATTER WITH ECHEVERRIA HIMSELF, BUT THIS SHOULD BE REVIEWED ON MY RETURN FROM CARACAS NEXT WEEKEND IN LIGHT OF THE SITUATION AT THAT TIME.
JOVA

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